

By What Authority

- Matthew 21:23-32 -

- A. The landscape of America is replete with churches of all kinds. Changes in the church are the result of people who change. People no longer want the “*tradition*”.
- B. Two things cause the internal landscape of a church to change: In **2 Tim 4:3,4**, it is (a) Itching ears (**v.3**), and (b) Deceived minds (**v.4**)...
- C. **2 Pet 1:12,13** is Peter’s way of getting Christians to remember the source of authority. Know the “*present truth*”.

1. Is There A _____ For _____ ?

- A. Life would be chaotic without authority...
- B. Honorable parents teach children the need for authority. We learn authority in school, at work, in marriage, and our nation.
- C. Do we understand the need for authority in religion?
- D. We need an authority that is better than our own (**Jn 7:17; 2 Tim 3:16,17; Rom 10:1-3; Prov 14:12; Matt 15:9**)...

2. The _____ About _____.

- A. *Its* _____ Authority has an "author" – GOD.
- B. God’s authority began when the world was formed.
- C. God’s thoughts and ways remain higher than man (**Isa 55:6-9**) D. To this we all should ask, “What does God want me to do?”
- E. Jesus did all God asked of Him (**Jn 8:25-29**)
- F. *Its* _____ Authority means “...the right to exercise power... the power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others.” (W.E.Vine, page 89).
- G. Authority in religion is **Matt. 28:20** and **Col 3:17**...
- H. Who in **Matt 21:23-27** recognizes the need for authority?
- I. Other facts about authority (overhead)

3. What Does _____ _____ ?

- A. Our _____ to _____ (**Heb 5:8,9**).
- B. Our _____ (**Ps 19:7-4; 119:11,105; Jn 12:48**)
- C. Our _____ Bible authority works from **WORD** to **WORK** as found in **Matt 7:21-23**. **v.21** is **WORD** to **WORK**, **v.22** is **WORK** to **WORD**... The consequences are **v.23**
- D. God has _____, man has _____ (**Ecc 12:13,14**)